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VIA ECFS

March 13, 2018

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Section 63.71 Application  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance  
for Authority to Discontinue Certain Services

JSI respectfully files the enclosed Application of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance for Authority to Discontinue Certain Services. This filing is made in compliance with Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules (47 C.F.R. § 63.71).

Sincerely,

Valerie Wimer  
Vice President

on behalf of

Jamie Ponder  
Manager Industry Affairs  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance

Enclosures

cc: Jamie Ponder, Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Echelon Building II, Suite 200  
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759  
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310  
1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121  
phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909

6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road  
Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328  
phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane  
Bountiful, UT 84010  
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)
	)
Section 63.71 Application of	)
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry	)
Telephone Long Distance (HTLD)	)
For Authority to Discontinue	)
Stand-Alone Long Distance Services	)

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION**

Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act, as amended, and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules,<sup>1</sup> Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD), applies for authority to discontinue stand-alone long distance service offered through HTLD's Long Distance Services Rates, Terms, and Conditions. HTLD requests authority to discontinue this service as of April 26, 2018.

HTLD submits the following information in support of its application:

**1. Name and address of carrier**

Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD)  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
Conway, SC 29526

For purposes of this Application, the Commission may contact:

Jamie Ponder  
Manager Industry Affairs  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
PO Box 1820  
Conway SC 29528  
843-369-8640

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<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 C.F.R. § 63.71.

**2. Date of Planned service discontinuance**

The anticipated date for discontinuing service is on or about April 26, 2018, or upon completion of all necessary federal and state regulatory approvals.

**3. Points of geographic areas of service affected**

HTLD seeks authority to discontinue wireline stand-alone long distance service for lines presubscribed to HTLD in the state of South Carolina in the competitive local exchange area of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (HTC) in Horry and Georgetown Counties.

**4. Brief description of the type of services affected**

Stand-alone long distance service is 1+ long distance wireline service for interstate and international calling provided to customers presubscribed to HTLD who do not also subscribe to HTC for local exchange service.<sup>2</sup>

**5. Brief description of the dates and methods of notice to all affected customers**

HTLD sent affected customers notice by U.S Mail on March 13, 2018. (See Attachment A.)

**6. Dominance of carrier with respect to the service to be discontinued**

HTLD is a non-dominant carrier with regard to the stand-alone long distance service.

**7. Circumstances of Discontinuance**

The Company's discontinuance of stand-alone long distance service was a business decision. The total HTLD stand-alone long distance customers has dwindled to six (6), and it no longer makes economic sense to support the service. Affected customers have alternatives to HTLD for long distance service, and furthermore have the option to retain the Company's long distance service if they choose to also subscribe to HTC local exchange service. HTLD has contacted each of the affected customers to discuss the planned discontinuance and customer alternatives.

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<sup>2</sup> HTLD is separately filing with the International Bureau notice of stand-alone long distance service discontinuance pursuant to Section 63.19 of the Commission's rules.

**8. Certification**

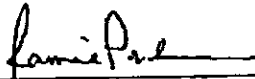
On behalf of HTLD, I, the undersigned Manager of Industry Affairs, Jamie Ponder, hereby certify that the statements contained herein are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and made in good faith.

**9. Service**

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), HTLD has mailed a copy of this application to the Governor and public utility commission of each affected state identified in Paragraph 3 above, as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

Respectfully submitted,

**Horry Telephone Long Distance**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Ponder  
Horry Telephone Long Distance, Inc.  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
Conway, SC 29526  
Phone 843-369-8640  
[Jamie.ponder@htcinc.net](mailto:Jamie.ponder@htcinc.net)

Date: March 13, 2018

**EXHIBIT A**  
**CUSTOMER NOTICE**



Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Dear Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD) Customer,

At HTC, we are committed to connecting you with the best services available at competitive rates that provide excellent value for our customers. As market conditions change, we are required to continually evaluate the rates, product offerings, and infrastructure to best suit the needs of our customers.

With this in mind, HTC is officially advising you that we are discontinuing HTLD long distance services for customers that do not also subscribe to HTC local exchange service. The effective date for discontinuance of this option is April 26, 2018.<sup>1</sup> Once discontinued, customers will not be able to subscribe to HTLD without also subscribing to HTC local exchange telephone service.

Please make arrangements to contact another long distance provider as soon as possible or no later than the April 26 deadline.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this notice or want to subscribe to HTC local exchange service in order to keep HTLD, please contact an HTC Customer Relations Associate at 843-365-2154 or 1-800-824-6779.

Sincerely,

*Denise Ambuhl*

HTC

This is life. Connect With It.

3480 Highway 701 North, Conway, SC 29526, 843-365-2154

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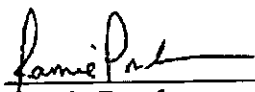
<sup>1</sup> The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that members would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases Public Notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's Public Notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of HTLD. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Horry Telephone Long Distance  
3480 Hwy 701 North, Conway SC 29526

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jamie Ponder, do hereby certify that I have caused the foregoing SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION to be:

- 1) Filed with the Secretary of the FCC via ECFS (Inbox 63.71 – Section 214 Domestic Discontinuance Application);
- 2) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Governors of the States listed on the attached service list;
- 3) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Public Utility Commissions listed on the attached service list; and
- 4) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamie Ponder

March 13, 2018

**SERVICE LIST**

Henry McMaster  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

South Carolina Public Service Commission  
Suite 100  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210

Secretary of Defense  
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications  
Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301